

Date: Wed, 6 Apr 94 04:30:34 PDT  
From: Ham-Equip Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-equip@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Ham-Equip-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Ham-Equip@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Ham-Equip Digest V94 #96  
To: Ham-Equip

Ham-Equip Digest                      Wed, 6 Apr 94                      Volume 94 : Issue    96

Today's Topics:

Icom IC-W21AT?  
Kenwood 830 & MFJ tuner  
Proper wire to connect a key? (3 msgs)  
SGC tuner  
TS50 INFO NEEDED  
Where can I get a good leather case for an HTX-202?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Equip@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Equip-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Equip Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-equip".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: 6 Apr 1994 04:09:58 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!galaxy.ucr.edu!library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!  
howland.reston.ans.net!wupost!bigfoot.wustl.edu!cec3!jlw3@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Icom IC-W21AT?  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

I'm getting ready to get my first rig, and I think I've decided on the  
IC-W21AT. My question is: I have heard some rumors that because of the  
ECPA, the magic key-sequence opening up wideband rx will be/is no longer  
applicable. Has anybody who has bought the ht recently tried it? Does  
it still work, and will I have any anticipated complaints with the ht?  
It's pretty much between this and the Yaesu FT-530. I plan to purchase  
sometime within three weeks. Please respond to jlw3@cec.wustl.edu or post  
response!!

--jesse (still waiting, 102 days and counting. . .)

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Date: Tue, 5 Apr 1994 10:29:02 GMT  
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!news.umbc.edu!  
haven.umd.edu!darwin.sura.net!gatekeeper.es.dupont.com!esds01.es.dupont.com!  
GRIB%esvx17.es.dupont.com%%@ihnp4.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Kenwood 830 & MFJ tuner  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

In article <Troyce-040494073700@idmb-secretary.tamu.edu>, Troyce@bio.tamu.edu  
(Troyce) writes:

>Ok, I have a Kenwood 830 I just bought, an MFJ 949E Versa Tuner II, and  
>have installed an Alpha Delta multiband dipole antenna in the attic.  
>Following the manual, I started tuning the transmitter, placing the mode on  
>tune, switching the MFJ to dummy load, peaking the drive and load, and  
>dipping the plate. During this process, the meter on the MFJ also  
>registers. Then the manual says to switch mode to CW and key down while  
>dipping the plate again, but nothing shows on the Kenwood meter when I do  
>this.

>

>Following this, I switch the MFJ to coax and attempt to match the antenna  
>to the rig. The MFJ instruction sheet says to key down on the keyer, then  
>set the transmitter and receiver calibration dials. The problem is, when I  
>do this, nothing registers on the MFJ meter once again. I have also tried  
>another keyer, and still no problem. Someone said they usually did all  
>their tuning with the send/receive switch on the rig, and by placing the  
>mode switch on tune, this did get a reading on the MFJ.

>

>Any suggestions from anyone familiar with the Kenwood 830 and the MFJ  
>tuner? Am I doing something wrong?

>

>Troyce  
>KC5CBI

>

>--

>-----

>Please read THE ELEMENT OF FIRE by Martha Wells, a Tor hardback at  
>quality bookstores near you. I live with the author and want  
>to go back to Disney World this year :)

>-----

Troyce,

To get the CW mode to work with Kenwood transceivers (and most Yaesu, and  
Icom's), you must have both a key plugged in, and the VOX turned on. If you  
leave the VOX off, then you can sorta practice sending CW without having the  
transmitter go on the air. Other than that, I don't know what would be wrong,  
check the book, and see if there's any other problem with the rig, but if  
you're getting power out of it on tune, then you should be able to get full

power out when you're in CW. Usually most people just tune the rig up with the tune position, and then go to SSB and adjust the mike gain accordingly. One thing I might mention you consider is one of the different gadgets to adjust your tuner without putting your rig actually on the air. Both reduces QRM to other stations, and also saves your rig's finals. MFJ, and several other companies make gizmo's that do this pretty cheaply (about \$100) which are a heck of a lot cheaper than a service call (no matter how minor) to Kenwood or any of the others.

Good Luck,  
Joe KI3B

-----  
Date: Tue, 5 Apr 1994 12:54:44 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Proper wire to connect a key?  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

In article <hamilton.765474668@BIX.com> hamilton@BIX.com (hamilton on BIX) writes:

>Okay, real dumb question. (Except that I'd feel even dumber if it turned  
>out this isn't a dumb question and I should have asked! :-)

>

>I've just bought a Bencher iambic key. I was a bit surprised to see they  
>didn't include any wire with it. Offhand, I assume any reasonable 3-  
>conductor wire can be used, right? I'm guessing it's just low voltage  
>low current (logic levels) DC involved, so not even any reason to use  
>a shielded cable, right? Just any decent, flexible light cable should  
>work, I'm assuming.

Oh, dear. Remember that your keying waveform is a square wave with varying duty cycle. A squarewave is made up of all odd harmonics from the fundamental up through infinity. You need to use oxygen free copper Monster Wire(tm) to avoid distortion of the dynamics of the waveform. The cable must have 8 twists per inch to achieve the proper pitch. (Experiments were conducted with 7.5 twists per inch, but there was a large pitch shift over the length of the cable.) Gold connectors are required, attached to the cable by pressure bond to avoid any chance of oxygen contamination of the copper. (Copper oxide is a diode, and will cause spurious harmonic generation.) I can sell you a nice set of pre-terminated cables for only \$99.95 plus shipping and handling.

:-) :-) :-)

Really, the only concern you may have is RF pickup. In that case you'd want to use shielded wire. Standard shielded pair audio cable works fine. Connect the shield to the paddle, and one of the pair wires to each of the dot and dash contacts.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

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Date: 6 Apr 94 02:48:12 GMT  
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!news.ucdavis.edu!  
modem58.ucdavis.edu!ddtodd@ucbvax.berkeley.edu  
Subject: Proper wire to connect a key?  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman) writes:

>In article <hamilton.765474668@BIX.com> hamilton@BIX.com (hamilton on BIX)  
>writes:>>Okay, real dumb question. (Except that I'd feel even dumber if it  
>turned>>out this isn't a dumb question and I should have asked! :-)

>>

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>varying duty cycle. A squarewave is made up of all odd harmonics from  
>the fundamental up through infinity. You need to use oxygen free copper  
>Monster Wire(tm) to avoid distortion of the dynamics of the waveform.  
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>(Experiments were conducted with 7.5 twists per inch, but there was  
>a large pitch shift over the length of the cable.) Gold connectors  
>are required, attached to the cable by pressure bond to avoid any  
>chance of oxygen contamination of the copper. (Copper oxide is a diode,

>and will cause spurious harmonic generation.) I can sell you a nice  
>set of pre-terminated cables for only \$99.95 plus shipping and handling.

Four days late Gary? :-)

>:-) :-) :-)

>Really, the only concern you may have is RF pickup. In that case you'd  
>want to use shielded wire. Standard shielded pair audio cable works  
>fine. Connect the shield to the paddle, and one of the pair wires to  
>each of the dot and dash contacts.

>Gary

>--

>Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
>Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
>534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
>Lawrenceville, GA 30244			

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Date: Wed, 6 Apr 1994 03:43:52 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!  
nlist@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Proper wire to connect a key?  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

In article <hamilton.765474668@BIX.com> hamilton@BIX.com (hamilton on BIX) writes:  
-I've just bought a Bencher iambic key. I was a bit surprised to see they  
-didn't include any wire with it. Offhand, I assume any reasonable 3-  
-conductor wire can be used, right? I'm guessing it's just low voltage  
-low current (logic levels) DC involved, so not even any reason to use  
-a shielded cable, right?

Yes and no... It is logic-level so the type of wire shouldn't be too  
important, but I would use two-conductor shielded wire, so any RF in  
the shack won't false-key or damage the inputs in the keyer. Definitely use  
stranded rather than solid. You may want to wire in a DPDT reversing switch

so you can swap paddles if you switch hands (or someone else uses your shack). Actually, I'd put the switch in the keyer, that way you can use any handy paddle, without worrying about how it is wired... Useful during Field Day and things like that.  
/mike

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--  
\\|/      Michael L. Ardai      N1IST      Teradyne ATB, Boston MA  
-*-----  
/|\      ardai@maven.dnet.teradyne.com      n1ist@netcom.com
```

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Date: Tue, 5 Apr 94 22:06:50 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!gatech!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!alberta!  
adec23!mark@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: SGC tuner  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

greg@netcom.com (Greg Bullough) writes:

>I keep hearing wonderful things about SGC's automatic antenna tuner.

Deserved.

>Does anyone have anything \*bad\* to say about this beastie?

If you have a close to resonant (but still bad match) antenna, the tuner can search till the cows come home, rattling away mindlessly at it's relays. A manual antenna tuner with cross-needle display takes about a minute to tune up on a fresh antenna and comparitively can match \*anything\*, which the SGC tuner can \*not\* (but damn close in any case). Only purchase this if you want hands off tuning desparately, I believe this tuner is the best on the market, if you prefer to run long wires in the middle of nowhere, bring along a manual tuner \*just in case\*.

If your aligator clip slips off the antenna feedline while running with the tuner in the shack, be prepared to watch in horror as your tuner matches up the short little alligator clip wire on 160M, then promptly starts a lightening burst and fire ball from the arcing ... ;-/

The tuner does \*not\* retune if it has better than a 4:1 match after switching bands, you will need to reset the power to the tuner before it will tune up on the new band.

Ciao -- 73 de VE6MGS/Mark -sk-

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Date: 5 Apr 1994 23:41:28 -0400  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.mtu.edu!news.mtu.edu!not-for-mail@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: TS50 INFO NEEDED  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

Hi all,

I am seriously considering the TS50s as my next rig purchase. I would like to hear comments/suggestions from owners of this radio. I guess I am just a bit leary of such a small rig. How does it perform? I am not a big contestor, I just like to ragchew with people on the air. I also enjoy chasing DX. My main interest isn't mobile, but perhaps its because I have an older ( and BIGGER) rig with Tube finals. Perhaps I would do some mobile work if I had this rig.

Anyway, I am interested in hearing from people who have this radio. How does it stand up to the larger rigs? Is it missing any features that you get with a larger rig? Are these features greatly missed? Would you buy it all over again?

I am also interested in the current street price if anyone has been shopping around for one.

(Also who has the best deal)

Thanks for your help!

Chris ==- N8PBi

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Date: 2 Apr 94 19:47:01 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!sgiblab!uhog.mit.edu!nntp.club.cc.cmu.edu!godot.cc.duq.edu!toads.pgh.pa.us!n3igw!sprouse@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Where can I get a good leather case for an HTX-202?  
To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

I've just ordered an HTX-202 (on sale at Marymac Industries for \$169) to replace my Icom IC-2AT. I have carried the Icom for years and one of the reasons that it still looks almost brand new is that it has a good fitting leather case. I'd like to have one like it for the 202 but the shack doesn't offer one. I plan to talk with my friends that target shoot and or hunt to find a local person who does holsters and such and get one made for it. If there is already some one out there doing this they would probably be cheaper. Please reply by mail, if there is interest I'll compile a list of vendors and post to the net. Thanks.

73's

-----Ken / N3IGW

--

Ken Sprouse / N3IGW        sprouse@n3igw.pgh.pa.us

GEnie mail KSPROUSE

Packet radio n3igw@w2xo.pa.usa.noam

Compu\$erve 70145,426

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Date: 5 Apr 1994 20:18:48 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!library.ucla.edu!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!gatech!

newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!zip.eecs.umich.edu!yeshua.marcam.com!hookup!

news.sprintlink.net!bga.com!redoutey@network.ucsd.edu

To: ham-equip@ucsd.edu

References <2n8h7b\$nvh@gaia.ucs.orst.edu>, <2n9g8d\$9su@crcnis1.unl.edu>,

<2n9jr0\$6nt@auggie.CCIT.Arizona.EDU>a

Subject : Re: WARC Bands for Ts-520S?

Howard Lester (hlester@nelson.as.arizona.edu) wrote:

: Does anyone know how to modify (and/or are there mods available for) the Kenwood

: TS-520S to operate in the so-called WARC bands?

: Howard KE7QJ        hlester@as.arizona.edu

Howard,

I contacted Kenwood several years ago, and they said that the radio will not handle any kind of mod for the WARC bands. Great radio otherwise!

--

Bob Redoutey - Austin, TX

Amateur Radio KF5KF

redoutey@bga.com

redouter@ccmail.us.dell.com

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End of Ham-Equip Digest V94 #96

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